

Merchantville, NJ January 11, 2020

A regular meeting of Borough Council was held on ZOOM at 7:30 PM, Monday, January 11, 2021. Mayor Ted Brennan presided. Pledge of Allegiance and Silent Prayer were observed for the family of the fallen police officer at the Capitol. Announcement was made that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the "Open Public Meetings Act".

ROLL CALL:

Council Present: Sean Fitzgerald, Andrew McLoone, Maria Nina Scarpa, Anthony Perno, Raymond Woods, Daniel Sperrazza and Mayor Edward Brennan. Attorney Timothy Higgins, CFO Denise Moules, Clerk Denise Brouse and Tom Leisse were present.

PUBLIC:

Jennifer North – 317 Woodbine Avenue, has two suggestions: have meeting minutes available sooner and move public to the end or have two public portions at the beginning and the end of the meeting. Make communication and finding information easier.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the motion of Mr. Perno and second of Mr. Fitzgerald Council approved the following minutes - Council 10/12/20

On the motion of Mr. Woods and second of Mr. Perno Council approved the following minutes - Council 11/9/20

On the motion of Mr. Perno and second of Mr. Woods Council approved the following minutes - Council 12/14/20

ENGINEER REPORT: See Attached

CORRESPONDENCE:

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Mr. McLoone – HPC had first meeting of the year, Mr. Nussbaum was sworn in. Eclipse extension approval. Rite Aid – working on sign update. Fire had 14 calls in December. 224 calls in 2020. Thank you for safe passage for Santa and for handling the fire at 1st Presbyterian Church. COVID has affected Police and Fire in Merchantville. Vaccine availability will be soon. Approval of Police contract. 924 incidents, 42 traffic, 5 arrests, 71 positive engagements, 30 training sessions in 2020. De-escalation, Community relations on for 2021. Patrolman Anthony Jones and Joseph Clark joined the Police force. Regarding incident on Saturday morning at Essence – police responded to several calls at location. After review of reports and body cameras and it appears to be routine. Not at liberty to share more at this time. No formal complaint has been submitted at this time. The information will be sent to the Prosecutor's office for further action.

Mayor Brennan – Footage was reviewed and a best practice process is done. Ongoing at Court level and has been handled correctly at this time.

Mr. Fitzgerald – Met with Kevin at Public Works. New staff has started and one more person will be added. Trash trucks are all working. We are clearing out storm sewers and setting a mapping of where they go. 9 trees have been removed.

Borough Hall – there are holes in the roof and issues with the gutters that have resulted in water damage.

Snow storm – 4 plows and roads salted.

Quality of Public Works staff has gotten better.

Road Project Meeting, Department of Health meeting, Public Events meeting, and plans for year. Communication and Website meeting for updates will take place next week, OEM is planning a group meeting around January 15, Business and Professional Association will be meeting on January 19, Board of Education January 26 next meeting.

Ms. Scarpa – Thank you for tree work, removal of 34 dead trees, 111 still need to be removal. Can the Centre Street Project add trees to list? Court – New Judge Brian Herman. Court December \$2,613. 92 add, 104 disposed. 69% less in 2020 than 2019.

Mr. Woods- Diversity Committee meet Tuesday and consider celebrating MLK Day, double app. Green Team has not met yet. Sustainable Merchantville is Considering bronze certification.

Mr. Sperrazza – No Report.

Mr. Perno- Abandoned property update, 25 vacant, 1 abandoned, and 5 coming off the list. Bills list.

Mayor Brennan – Downtown redevelopment, meeting with Viking in late January. Continuing to work on Pedestrian element. Tax abatement resolution. Merchant House improvement abatement 5 year phase in.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION – Food Trucks on Borough Property. Food truck owner misunderstood what was discussed at land use meeting. They may want to consider some type of permit for number of dates on property and safety of trucks. Manage interest of other businesses and add to an ordinance from Tim.

RESOLUTIONS to be read by consent agenda: On the motion of Mr. Perno and second of Ms. Scarpa, Council approved the following resolutions:

R21-20

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGE 3 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT SAID CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the Borough of Merchantville (hereinafter "Merchantville") is a municipal entity organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey and located in Camden County; and

WHEREAS, after negotiations, Merchantville and the Police Union Lodge 3 wish to enter into a contract covering the period of time commencing January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Merchantville and the Police Union Lodge 3 have agreed to the terms and conditions of this Contract; as so stated in the document attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Borough Council of Merchantville to authorize the Mayor to execute the attached Contract and the Borough Clerk to attest on behalf of the Borough of Merchantville;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, that the Contract, by and between the Borough of Merchantville and the Police Union Lodge 3, be and hereby is approved; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Edward F. Brennan, Mayor of the Borough of Merchantville, and Denise Brouse, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Merchantville be and hereby are authorized to execute the Contract, and all other documents necessary to implement said Contract on behalf of the Borough of Merchantville.

**R21-21
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE,
COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY
AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF PAYMENT OF TAX PAYMENT**

WHEREAS, the Merchantville Tax Collector has called to Mayor and Council's attention a request to refund a 2020 4TH qtr. tax payment due to being a totally disabled Veteran and taxes being paid at settlement.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville that the following refund, be approved on this account in the amount of \$2,551.66 and the refund be forwarded to:

Joseph Price
16 Clifton Ave
Merchantville, NJ 08109

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>BL.</u>	<u>LOT</u>	<u>NAME & ADDRESS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2020	30	11	Joseph Price 16 Clifton Avenue	\$2,551.66

**R21-22
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE, COUNTY OF
CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY APPOINTING JON PAUL
BEAUCHAMP AS COORDINATOR OF OEM FOR THE BOROUGH OF
MERCHANTVILLE**

WHEREAS, the Office of Emergency Management position requires that the coordinator reside in the Borough of Merchantville; and

WHEREAS, Jon Paul Beauchamp has agreed to accept the three-year appointment as OEM coordinator;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville that the appointment of Jon Paul Beauchamp, to the position of Office of Emergency Management Coordinator for a term commencing January 1, 2020, and concluding on December 31, 2022.

**R21-23
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE,
COUNTY OF CAMDEN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY
APPROVING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AND THE CLERK
TO ATTEST THE USE AND OCCUPANCY
AGREEMENT FOR 25 E PARK AVENUE**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Merchantville, and Chris Mattern, wish to establish a lease for the use of certain property within the Borough of Merchantville located at 25 E. Park Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Borough solicitor has prepared the agreement and Council has approved the Mayor to sign and the Borough Clerk to attest the agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor shall sign and the Clerk attest to the lease agreement.

R21-24
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE,
COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY
ACCEPTING AND APPROVING A FIVE-YEAR TAX
ABATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A 40A:21-1

WHEREAS, the Borough Assessor, John Dymond, has received a tax abatement application from Lauren Bell Trust who owns a property at 24 S Centre Street, Merchantville, NJ, has shown as block 22, lot 26 on the official tax map of the Borough of Merchantville; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Assessor, John Dymond has reviewed the application and is recommending to the Borough Council through the Mayor, that the application is complete and that a five (5) year abatement is in the best interest of the economic development of the Borough of Merchantville; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Assessor, John Dymond has established that the full and true value of the improvement on the above referenced lot at \$185,000

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville in accordance with Chapter 144 P.L. 1991, that the Borough Council hereby memorializes the actions taken by the Mayor and Clerk in executing an agreement between the Borough of Merchantville and Lauren Bell trust providing for the following:

1. Beginnings January 1, 2022 the taxes on the true value of the improvement established above should be twenty percent (20%)
2. For the Year 2023: Forty percent (40%)
3. For the Year 2024: sixty percent (60%)
4. For the Year 2025: eighty percent (80%)
5. For the Year 2026: Full taxes on the true value of the improvements established above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the agreement shall provide for any and all conditions relative to the abatement, covered under Chapter 114 P.L. 1991.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of the resolution will be filed in the Clerk's office and certified copies of this resolution will be forwarded by the Borough to John Dymond, Assessor and Lauren Bell Trust

R21-25
RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE,
COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY
AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF THE SOLID
WASTE DISPOSAL

WHEREAS, the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders authorized and awarded a contract to Camden County Energy Recovery Associates, LP for Disposal of Solid Waste; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to State statute, Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A 40A: 11-1 et seq., bids were received and opened for the solid waste and recyclable material collection service for all participating municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the County at their discretion exercised the option for the first-year option of Bid A-48/2018 for the term January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, that the bidding contractor, Camden County Energy Recovery Associates,

LP, 445 South Street, Morristown, New Jersey, 07960, for bid A-48/2018- 1yr Option under Camden County Cooperative Pricing System, ID #57-CCCPS will be notified in writing of the Boroughs request for the extension to the bid by the Borough Clerk for the Borough of Merchantville.

ORDINANCES for introduction on first reading This ordinance will be considered for adoption at the public hearing to be held during the January 25th council meeting: On the motion of Mr. McLoone and second of Mr. Fitzgerald, Council approved the following ordinances:

21-01

AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE SALARIES FOR THE YEARS 2020-2023 FOR FULL TIME EMPLOYEES OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE BOROUGH OF MERCHANTVILLE IN THE COUNTY OF CAMDEN AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Merchantville as follows:

SECTION 1. The maximum annual salaries of the employees of the Borough of Merchantville are hereby established, in accordance with the following schedule for services performed as of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023.

Title	2020	2021	2022	2023
Detective Sergeant	\$99,814	\$102,309	\$104,867	\$107,488
Sergeant	\$94,440	\$96,801	\$99,221	\$101,702
Corporal	\$89,660	\$91,901	\$94,199	\$96,554
Police Officer 109 +	\$86,071	\$88,223	\$90,429	\$92,689
Police Officer 97-108 mos. Service	\$80,441	\$82,452	\$84,513	\$86,626
Police Officer 79-96 mos. Service	\$72,990	\$72,990	\$72,990	\$72,990
Police Officer 61-78 mos. Service	\$69,188	\$70,918	\$72,691	\$74,508
Police Officer 49-60 mos. Service	\$63,562	\$65,151	\$66,780	\$68,450
Police Officer 31-48 mos. Service	\$57,936	\$59,385	\$60,869	\$62,391
Police Officer 13-30 mos. Service	\$52,310	\$53,618	\$54,958	\$56,332
Police Officer 0-12 mos. Service	\$46,684	\$47,851	\$49,047	\$50,274

The salary schedule reflects a two and a half (2.5%) percent increase for calendar year 2020; a two and a half (2.5%) percent increase for calendar years 2021, a two and a half (2.5%) percent increase for calendar year 2022, and a two and a half (2.5%) percent increase for calendar year 2023. The increase for 2020 is retroactive to January 1, 2016 and for the remaining years, is effective January 1 of each year.

SECTION 2. Police Experience Pay – Additional compensation paid to each police officer based upon years of police experience with the Borough.

<u>Start of Year</u>		<u>End of Year</u>	<u>% of Base Pay</u>
6 th	year police experience until	10 th year	2%
11 th	year police experience until	15 th year	3%
16 th	year police experience until	20 th year	4%
21 st	year police experience until	24 th year	5%
25 th	year police experience until	retirement	6%

Any employee hired after January 1, 2016 is ineligible for police experience pay.

SECTION 3. All the employees of the patrol division will work twelve (12) hour shifts. All employees assigned to work 7:00pm to 7:00am shall be paid at an additional rate of 2% above their hourly base salary; officers assigned to the power shift shall be paid at an additional 1.75% above their hourly base salary for all hours worked.

SECTION 4. A police officer designated as the officer-in-charge (OIC) shall receive quarterly (April, August, and December) an additional 12 hours of compensatory time as compensation for the performance of OIC duties.

SECTION 5. The increase in salaries herein shall be in effect during the year(s) as indicated and shall not be changed unless it has been changed as provided by law.

SECTION 6. All ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed as to such inconsistencies only.

SECTION 7. This ordinance shall become effective twenty (20) days after publication thereof following final passage, and all salaries and compensation shall be retroactive to January 1, 2020.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On the motion of Mr. Perno and second of Mr. Woods council approved the bills list:

R21-26 RESOLUTION

RESOLVED that the Report of the Department of Accounts and Auditing be accepted and spread upon the minutes and the Treasurer be is hereby authorized to pay bill approved therein.

CURRENT FUND		REVENUE	BUDGET
CHECKS CURRENT FUND	2020 BUDGET	\$	130,638.24
	2021 BUDGET	\$ 397.00	\$ 98,149.74
	GRANTS		\$ 537.20
	PFRS		
	PERS		
	DEBT SERVICE	\$	36,405.00
	BOARD OF EDUCATION*		
	MEDICAL DEDUCTIBLE	\$	266.16
	CAMDEN COUNTY		
WIRE TRANSFERS PAYROLL	12/18/20- 1/1/21	\$	133,988.34
WIRES / MANUAL CHECKS		\$	36,265.92

TOTAL CURRENT		\$	397.00	\$	436,250.60
SEWER UTILITY					
CHECKS SEWER FUND	2020 BUDGET			\$	3,582.81
	2021 BUDGET			\$	616.00
	DEBT SERVICE			\$	40,302.79
WIRE TRANSFERS PAYROLL	12/18/20- 1/1/21				\$5,891.28
WIRE NJEIT LOAN					
WIRES /MANUAL CHECKS					
TOTAL SEWER		\$	-	\$	50,392.88
GENERAL CAPITAL FUND					
CHECK CAPITAL FUND				\$	16,513.58
MANUAL CHECK					
WIRE TRANSFERS PAYROLL					
TOTAL CAPITAL		\$	-	\$	16,513.58
TRUST FUND					
CHECK TRUST OTHER FUND				\$	3,008.20
REDEVELOPER TRUST					
WIRE TRANSFERS PAYROLL	12/18/20- 1/1/21				18,925.61
WIRES / MANUAL CHECKS					28,000.00
TOTAL TRUST		\$	-	\$	26,172.01
SEWER CAPITAL FUND					
CHECK SEWER CAPITAL					
MANUAL CHECKS					
WIRE TRANSFERS PAYROLL					
TOTAL SEWER CAPITAL		\$	-	\$	-
ANIMAL TRUST FUND					
ANIMAL TRUST CHECK					
TOTAL ANIMAL TRUST		\$	-	\$	-
TOTAL BILL LIST & MANUAL CHECKS/WIRE					
		\$	397.00	\$	529,329.07
GRAND TOTAL				\$	529,726.07

ANNOUNCEMENTS:**PRIVATE SESSION:**

ADJOURNMENT: On the motion of Ms. Scarpa and second of Mr. Perno the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 P.M.

**ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROVIDED
OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING
AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Denise Brouse, Borough Clerk



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ENGINEER'S REPORT
FOR
MERCHANTVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL
January 11, 2021

The items for the Council's consideration include the following:

- A. FY2018 NJDOT Municipal Aid Road Program (MERCH 18001)
 - 1. Close out documents have been executed by the Borough and have been transmitted to the NJDOT for final reimbursement. Documents have been received by DOT and are confirmed for processing.
- B. FY2019 NJDOT Municipal Aid Road Program (MERCH 19005)
 - 1. The concrete and paving work have been completed on Clifton and Ivins. My office is reviewing the completion of punch list items.
- C. FY2020 NJDOT Municipal Aid Road Program (MERCH 19006)
 - 1. My office has revised the plans and specs to address review comments by the NJDOT. My office will review the scope of the FY2020 grant with the funds received for FY2021 to potentially combine to increase the overall paving scope.
- D. Glenwood Avenue Drainage (MERCH 19007)
 - 1. My office is working with the NJEPA for the submission of environmental review documents for the design of the storm water pump station. My office has received preliminary design comments from NJ Transit Rail Operations.
- E. General Engineering (MERCH 20001)
 - 1. My office is assisting the Borough with recreational improvements at the Community Center.
 - 2. My office is assisting the Borough with coordination of County road improvement projects in the Borough.
 - 3. My office is assisting the Borough with updating the priority list of streets to be rehabilitated within the Borough.
 - 4. My office is assisting the Borough with reviewing stormwater issues within the Borough.
 - 5. My office is assisting the Borough with reviewing sewer connections as needed.
 - 6. My office is assisting the Borough with coordination of road opening permits and street restoration as needed.
 - 7. The Borough has received notification from the NJDOT that Merchantville has been selected to receive funds for the FY2021 Municipal Aid Program. My office will work with the Borough on road selection.